AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the Application.

1. – 50. (cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended) A method implemented in a system comprising a plurality of computers, at least one of which is located remotely from at least one other of said computers and interconnected by a communication system, for conducting a first auction of a first set of items, said first auction conducted in association with a second auction of a second set of items, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, at least two bidders participating in the first auction, the method comprising:

a) initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) receiving bids ~~from bidders~~ for items in the first set of items using a first computer of said system and communicating at least some of said bids to a second computer of said system which is remote from said first computer via the communication system,

c) constraining the received bids by accepting only bids which satisfy a constraint based on bids in the second auction,

d) determining, using the second computer, whether the first auction should terminate,

e) repeating b), c) and d) until the first auction is terminated, and

f) assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force at the time the first auction was terminated.

52. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 51 wherein the first auction [[is]] occurs at the same time as the second auction.

53. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein the first auction occurs after the second auction.

54. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 51 wherein items in the second set are communication licenses and items in the first set are clearing rights related to the

~~communications~~ communication licenses.

55. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 51 wherein items in the first set are communication licenses and items in the second set are clearing rights related to the ~~communications~~ communication licenses.

56. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein items in the second set are related to airport landing rights.

57. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein items in the first set are related to airport landing rights.

58. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein each item in the first set is related to an item in the second set.

59. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 58 which includes assigning each item in the first set to [[the]] a successful bidder for the related item in the second set.

60. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein each item in the first set is complementary to an item in the second set.

61. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein step d) terminates the first auction in the event that no new bids were submitted and wherein step d) also provides new bidding information to bidders in the event that the first auction is not terminated.

62. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 51 wherein step f) is limited to selected bidders.

63. (Currently Amended)   A method implemented in a system comprising a plurality of computers, at least one of which is located remotely from at least one other of said computers and interconnected by a communication system, for conducting a first auction of a first set of items, said first auction conducted in association with a second auction of a second set of items, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, at least one item in the first set having a complementary item in the second set, at least two bidders participating in the first

auction, the method comprising:

a) initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) accepting bids ~~from bidders~~ for items in the first set of items using a first computer of said system and communicating at least some of said bids to a second computer of said system which is remote from said first computer via the communication system, at least one of the bids from one of the bidders conditional on said bidder winning a complementary item in the second auction,

c) determining, using the second computer, whether the first auction should terminate,

d) repeating b) and c) until the first auction is terminated, and

e) eliminating each of the conditional bids which fail to satisfy any of their conditions, and thereafter assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force subsequent to the eliminating of the conditional bids which fail to satisfy any of their conditions.

64. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 63 wherein the first auction occurs at the same time as the second auction.

65. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 63 wherein the first auction occurs after the second auction.

66. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 63 wherein items in the second set are communication licenses and items in the first set are clearing rights related to the ~~communications~~ communication licenses.

67. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 63 wherein items in the first set are communication licenses and items in the second set are clearing rights related to the ~~communications~~ communication licenses.

68. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 63 wherein items in the second set are related to airport landing rights.

69. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 63 wherein items in the first set are related to airport landing rights.

70. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 63 wherein each item in the first set is related to an item in the second set.

71. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 70 which includes assigning each item in the first set to the successful bidder for the related item in the second set.

72. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 63 wherein each item in the first set is complementary to an item in the second set.

73. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 63 wherein step c) terminates the first auction in the event that no new bids were submitted and wherein step c) also provides new bidding information to bidders in the event that the first auction is not terminated.

74. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 63 wherein step e) is limited to selected bidders.

75. (Currently Amended)   A system for conducting a first auction of a first set of items, said auction conducted in association with a second auction of a second set of items, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, said system allowing at least two bidders ~~participating~~ to participate in the first auction, the system comprising:
   a) means for initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,
   b) means for inputting bids from bidders for items in the first set of items,
   c) means for constraining the inputted bids by accepting only bids which satisfy a constraint, based on bids for the second set of items in the second auction,
   d) means for determining whether the first auction should terminate,
   e) means for repeating the inputting, constraining and determining until the first auction is terminated, and
   f) means for assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force at the time the first auction was terminated.

76. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 75 wherein the first auction is a computer-implemented auction and occurs at the same time as the second auction.

77. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 75 wherein the first auction is a computer-implemented auction and occurs after the second auction.

78. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 75 wherein items in the second set are communication licenses and items in the first set are clearing rights related to the ~~communications~~ communication licenses.

79. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 75 wherein items in the first set are communication licenses and items in the second set are clearing rights related to the ~~communications~~ communication licenses.

80. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 75 wherein items in the second set are related to airport landing rights.

81. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 75 wherein items in the first set are related to airport landing rights.

82. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 75 wherein each item in the first set is related to an item in the second set.

83. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 82 which includes means for assigning each item in the first set to [[the]] a successful bidder for the related item in the second set.

84. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 75 wherein each item in the first set is complementary to an item in the second set.

85. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 75 wherein the means for determining terminates the first auction in the event that no new bids were submitted and further includes means for providing new bidding information to bidders in the event that the first auction is not terminated.

86. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 75 wherein said means for assigning is limited to operating with selected bidders.

87. (Currently Amended). A system for conducting a first auction of a first set of items, said auction conducted in association with a second auction of a second set of items, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, at least one item in the first set having a complementary item in the second set, ~~said system allowing~~ at least two bidders ~~participating~~ to participate in the first auction, the system comprising:

a) means for initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) means for inputting bids from bidders for items in the first set of items, at least one of the bids from one of the bidders conditional on said bidder winning a complementary item in the second auction,

c) means for determining whether the first auction should terminate,

d) means for repeating the inputting and determining until the first auction is terminated, and

e) means for eliminating each of the conditional bids which fail to satisfy any of their conditions, and thereafter assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force subsequent to the eliminating of the conditional bids which fail to satisfy any of their conditions.

88. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 87 wherein the first auction is a computer-implemented auction and occurs at the same time as the ~~related~~ second auction.

89. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 87 wherein the first auction is a computer-implemented auction and occurs after the second auction.

90. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 87 wherein items in the second set are communication licenses and items in the first set are clearing rights related to the ~~communications~~ communication licenses.

91. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 87 wherein items in the first set are communication licenses and items in the second set are clearing rights related to the ~~communications~~ communication licenses.

92. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 87 wherein items in the second set are related to airport landing rights.

93. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 87 wherein items in the first set are related to airport landing rights.

94. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 87 wherein each item in the first set is related to an item in the second set.

95. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 94 which includes means for assigning each item in the first set to [[the]] a successful bidder for the related item in the second set.

96. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 87 wherein each item in the first set is complementary to an item in the second set.

97. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 87 wherein said means for determining terminates the first auction in the event that no new bids were submitted and said means for determining further includes means for providing new bidding information to bidders in the event that the first auction is not terminated.

98. (Previously Presented)   The system of claim 87 wherein said means for assigning is limited to operation with selected bidders.

99. (Currently Amended).   A method implemented in a system comprising a plurality of computers, at least one of which is located remotely from at least one other of said computers and interconnected by a communication system, for conducting a first auction of a first set of items and a second auction of a second set of items, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, at least two bidders participating in [[both]] each of the auctions, the method comprising:

a) initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) initiating the second auction by identifying the second set of items and accepting bids therefor,

c) receiving bids ~~from bidders~~ for items in the first set of items in the first auction using a first computer of said system and communicating at least some of said bids to a second computer of said system which is remote from the first computer via the communication system,

d) constraining the received bids in the first auction by accepting only bids which satisfy a constraint based on bids for the second set of items in the second auction,

e) determining, using the second computer whether the first auction should terminate,

f) repeating c), d) and e) until the first auction is terminated, and

g) assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force at the time the first auction was terminated.

100. (Currently Amended)   A system for conducting a first auction of a first set of items and a second auction of a second set of items, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, said system allowing at least two bidders ~~participating~~ to participate in [[both]] each of the auctions, the system comprising:

a) means for initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) means for initiating the second auction by identifying the second set of items and accepting bids therefor,

c) means for inputting bids from bidders for items in the first set of items in the first auction,

d) means for constraining the inputted bids in the first auction by accepting only bids which satisfy a constraint based on bids for the second set of items in the second auction,

e) means for determining whether the first auction should terminate,

f) means for repeating c), d) and e) until the first auction is terminated, and

g) means for assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force at the time the first auction was terminated.

101. (Currently Amended)   A method implemented in a system comprising a plurality of computers, at least one of which is located remotely from at least one other of said computers and interconnected by a communication system, for conducting a first auction of a first set of items and a second auction of a second set of items, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, at least one item in the first set having a complementary item in the second set, at least two bidders participating in the auctions, the method comprising:

a) initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) initiating the second auction by identifying the second set of items and accepting bids

therefor,

c) receiving bids ~~from bidders~~ for items in the first set of items in the first auction using a first computer of said system and communicating at least some of said bids to a second computer of said system which is remote from the first computer via the communication system, at least one of the bids from one of the bidders conditional on said bidder winning a complementary item in the second auction,

d) determining, using the second computer, whether the first auction should terminate,

e) repeating c) and d) until the first auction is terminated, and

f)) eliminating each of the conditional bids which fail to satisfy any of their conditions, and thereafter assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force at the time the first auction was terminated.

102. (Currently Amended)   A system for conducting a first auction of a first set of items and a second auction of a second set of items, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, at least one item in the first set having a complementary item in the second set, said system allowing at least two bidders ~~participating~~ to participate in the auctions, the system comprising:

a) means for initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) means for initiating the second auction by identifying the second set of items and accepting bids therefor,

c) means for accepting bids from bidders for items in the first set of items, at least one of the bids from one of the bidders conditional on said bidder winning a complementary item in the second auction,

d) means for determining whether the first auction should terminate,

e) means for repeating c) and d) until the first auction is terminated, and

f) means for eliminating each of the conditional bids which fail to satisfy any of their conditions, and thereafter assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force at the time the first auction was terminated.

103. (Currently Amended)   A computer system for conducting a first auction of a first set of items and a second auction of a second set of items, said computer system comprising a plurality of computers, at least one of which is located remotely from at least one other of said

computers and interconnected by a communication system, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, <u>said system allowing</u> at least two bidders ~~participating~~ <u>to participate</u> in [[both]] <u>each of</u> the auctions, the computer system:

a) initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) initiating the second auction by identifying the second set of items and accepting bids therefor,

c) receiving bids ~~from bidders~~ for items in the first set of items in the first auction using a first computer of said system and communicating at least some of said bids to a second computer of said system which is remote from the first computer via the communication system,

d) constraining the received bids in the first auction by accepting only bids which satisfy a constraint based on bids for the second set of items in the second auction,

e) determining in the second computer whether the first auction should terminate,

f) repeating c), d) and e) until the first auction is terminated, and

g) assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force at the time the first auction was terminated.

104. (Currently Amended)   A computer system for conducting a first auction of a first set of items and a second auction of a second set of items, said computer system comprising a plurality of computers, at least one of which is located remotely from at least one other of said computers and interconnected by a communication system, said first set of items being different from said second set of items, at least one item in the first set having a complementary item in the second set, <u>said system allowing</u> at least two bidders ~~participating~~ <u>to participate</u> in the auctions, the computer system:

a) initiating the first auction by identifying the first set of items,

b) initiating the second auction by identifying the second set of items and accepting bids therefor,

c) accepting bids ~~from bidders~~ for items in the first set of items using a first computer of said system and communicating at least some of said bids to a second computer of said system which is remote from the first computer via the communication system, at least one of the bids from one of the bidders conditional on said bidder winning a complementary item in the second auction,

d) determining in the second computer whether the first auction should terminate,

e) repeating c) and d) until the first auction is terminated, and

f) eliminating each of the conditional bids which fail to satisfy any of their conditions, and thereafter assigning the first set of items to bidders based on the bids in force at the time the first auction was terminated.